GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3457
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2015
Potash Reserves
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate potash reserves are available in Bikaner district of Rajasthan;
(b) if so, the details of the quantity of potash available in the State;
(c) whether the Government proposes to adopt any scientific method for exploration and exploitation of potash; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

(a) and (b): As per available information, no reserves/resources for potash are available in Bikaner district of Rajasthan. District wise details of remaining resources of potash in State of Rajasthan as on 01.04.2010 are given below:
(In million tonnes)

State/district	Remaining Resources	Total Resources
Rajasthan	20419	20419
Jaisalmer	22	22
Nagaur	20397	20397

Source: Indian Bureau of Mines

(c) and (d): Geological Survey of India (GSI), an attached office of Ministry of Mines, carries out mineral exploration including potash following scientific procedures and the guidelines given in the Standard Operating Procedure established by GSI. GSI has been making continuous efforts to adopt advanced technology and new ideas. In this regard GSI has identified certain favorable geological settings in the country which has been termed as "Obvious Geological Potential" (OGP) areas. Priority areas have been fixed for Geochemical mapping and Geophysical mapping in the most potential parts of the OGP areas (core OGP areas) and along with the data obtained from Systematic Thematic Mapping, areas have been selected to derive logically the spin off items for future exploration. Multi-level data integration and modeling projects have already been initiated by GSI to find out new target areas for different mineral commodities. Equipments with state-of-the-art technology are being procured to facilitate the exploration activities and to identify the deep seated/ concealed mineral deposits. The officers engaged in exploration programmes are being trained by the domain experts in GSI and abroad and are apprised with the present exploration techniques.
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